

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 16755

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: RESTRICTED MEETING, NOVEMBER
20, 1975 TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 4

1. SUMMARY. RESTRICTED MEETING NOVEMBER 20 (MOROKHOV, TIMERBAEV, KOVALEV - BUCHHEIM, MARTIN, TUNIK) CONSIDERED WAYS TO EXPEDITE WORK AND QUESTIONS THAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS. EXCHANGE COVERED USDEL ACCOMMODATION DIFFICULTIES, OBSERVER ACCESS AND ON-SITE VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT, AND MOROKHOV PUSH TO SETTLE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLE AS SEEN BY SOVIETS (NAMELY, EXCEPTIONS, 150-KT YIELD LIMIT TO TRIGGER ON-SITE VERIFICATION, AND 2-MT AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT), AFTER WHICH POINTS OF DETAIL COULD READILY BE RESOLVED. WORKING GROUP I AGREED TO MEET NOVEMBER 21 TO REVIEW AD REF TREATY TEXT. END SUMMARY.

2. MOROKHOV ASKED BUCHHEIM TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 20 RESTRICTED MEETING. BUCHHEIM MADE CLEAR USDEL PREPARED TO PROCEED IN CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER TO TRY TO ACHIEVE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME MOST COMPLETE AD REF DRAFT TEXT; HOWEVER, HE COULD NOT AGREE TO SITUATION WHERE US EXPERTS AT DISADVANTAGE AS RESULT OF NOT HAVING AMPLE ACCOMMODATIONS. USDEL IN MOSCOW FOR CONVENIENCE OF SOVIET SIDE, AND CONDITIONS SHOULD BE SUCH WHEREBY BOTH DELS ABLE TO WORK AT MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. MOROKHOV REPLIED THERE

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SEEMED NO HOPE TO SOLVE PROBLEM FOR AT LEAST TEN DAYS,

AND NOTED THAT DECEMBER AND PERIOD MOVING CLOSER TO LATE FEBRUARY PARTY CONGRESS COULD BE MORE DIFFICULT. HE SAID SOVIET SIDE NEVER INSISTED THAT MOSCOW BE SOLE VENUE FOR PNE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. IN DISCUSSION ON HOW NOW QUICKEST PROGRESS MIGHT BE MADE BUCHHEIM SAID IN US VIEW GREATER CLARIFICATION AND DEVELOPED DIALOG NECESSARY WITH RESPECT TO OBSERVER ACCESS AND ON-SITE VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT. US REVIEW DURING SHORT BREAK HAD MADE CLEAR THAT GREATER SPECIFICITY REQUIRED IN ORDER TO SHAPE PROVISIONS TO MEET SOVIET LEGITIMATE CONCERNS, ABOUT WHICH US STILL UNCLEAR, AND TO MEET LEGITIMATE NEEDS TO ENSURE ADEQUACY FOR VERIFYING SIDE. MOROKHOV SAID THAT POINTS RAISED BY BUCHHEIM WERE MATTERS OF DETAIL AND HE DID NOT ENVISAGE INSUPERABLE DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS. HE DID ASSERT, HOWEVER, THAT OBSERVER RIGHTS COULD NOT BE GREATER THAN THOSE OF HOST PARTY CARRYING OUT PNE PROJECT.

4. AS FOLLOW-ON TO DISCUSSION WITH TIMERBAEV (SEE MOSCOW 16672 AND MOSCOW 16753) WITH RESPECT TO MOROKHOV OCTOBER 31 EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL, BUCHHEIM ASKED QUESTIONS ON ALL UNCLEAR POINTS, TO WHICH MOROKHOV REPLIED IN VARYING DEGREE OF SPECIFICITY AND CLARITY (SEE SEPTTEL).

5. MOROKHOV THEN SAID HE WANTED TO RAISE SEVERAL POINTS OF PRINCIPLE, WHICH HE ASSERTED, IN PREDICTABLE PRESSURE PROSE THAT HE FROM TIME TO TIME ENGAGES IN, WOULD HAVE TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE IT MADE SENSE TO ADDRESS DETAILS RAISED BY BUCHHEIM. THESE POINTS WERE: EXCEPTIONS TO AGREED YIELD LIMIT; 150-KT YIELD LIMIT TO TRIGGER ON-SITE VERIFICATION, AND AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT AT 2 MT. SOLUTION OF THESE POINTS IN MANNER SATISFACTORY TO SOVIET SIDE WOULD ENABLE POINTS OF DETAIL TO BE SOLVED QUICKLY. BUCHHEIM NOTED THAT BOTH SIDES HAD AGREED ALL ALONG THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, QUESTION OF AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT DEPENDENT ON ADEQUATE MEANS OF VERIFICATION FOR ANY GIVEN LIMIT. US STILL HELD THIS VIEW, AND IT BASIS FOR US AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT PROPOSAL OF ONE MT.

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6. MOROKHOV ASKED ABOUT FUTURE SCHEDULE, AND BUCHHEIM REPLIED THAT HE PREPARED TO WORK AS LONG AND AS HARD AS SOVIETS WISHED BUT SITUATION HE HAD MENTIONED AT OUTSET STILL POSED DIFFICULTIES WHICH HE HOPED, AND BELIEVED, WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES COULD BE RESOLVED IN ORDER TO FACILITATE JOINT WORK. AT CLOSE OF MEETING IT WAS AGREED THAT WORKING GROUP I WOULD MEET NOVEMBER 21 AT 3:00 PM

TO REVIEW TREATY TEXT.

MATLOCK

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